

Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change
(FC Division)

Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Jor Bag Road, Aliganj,
New Delhi - 110003.

Dated: 2nd February, 2023

To,

The Principal Secretary (Forests),
Department of Environment & Forests,
Government of Rajasthan,
Jaipur

Subject: Proposal for diversion of 74.2490 Ha. Forest Land in favour of RDSA Mining LLP for opencast Marble Mining in Revenue Village - Danta, Tehsil- Pipalkhunth, District – Pratapgarh, Rajasthan (Online proposal No. FP/RJ/MIN/142599/2021).

Madam/Sir,

I am directed to refer to the Government of Rajasthan's letter No. P.1 (155) VAN/2022 dated 11.01.2023 submitting the subject cited proposal for seeking prior approval under Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980. After preliminary examination of the proposal, the following shortcomings have been noticed:

- i. Compensatory Afforestation (CA) towards instant proposal has been proposed to be carried out in three patches and one of the CA patch namely Village: Pahada comprising 13.5 ha land is within the forest boundary as per DSS analysis.
- ii. Few settlements, small area under agriculture and existence of road are found in the proposed forest land for diversion. Moreover, encroachment in form of agriculture and the settlements are also visible just outside the boundary of proposed forest land for diversion. This requires justification and clarification.
- iii. As per DSS analysis, out of identified 75 ha. non-forest land for CA, 13 ha. is Moderately Dense (MDF), 39 ha. is Open Forest (OF), 02 ha is Scrub and remaining 21 ha is Non-forest. Further, the State Govt has submitted the site suitability certificates intimating that the NFL proposed for CA is suitable for planting. Keeping this in view the justification for submitting details of 85 ha DFL for the purpose of CA is not understood. This needs clarification.
- iv. The State Govt. has not provided the KML file of 85 ha degraded forest land identified for the purpose of CA in forest block-Sukad (RF) of village-Dhawada, Tehsil- Chotisadri, District-Pratapgarh, Rajasthan.
- v. An area of 0.75 ha is proposed to be used for Roads and Buildings, however the nature of buildings proposed to be constructed has not been given. The State Govt. shall explore the possibility of carrying out building construction

on Non-forest land.

In view of above, the State Govt. is requested to provide the information/documents/clarification on the above points to this Ministry for further consideration of the instant proposal.

Yours faithfully,

Sd/-

(Suneet Bhardwaj)

Assistant Inspector General of Forests

Copy to:

1. The Principal CCF & (HoFF), Government of Rajasthan, Jaipur;
2. The Regional Officer, Integrated Regional Office of MoEF&CC, Jaipur, Rajasthan;
3. The Nodal Officer (FCA), O/o the PCCF, Government of Rajasthan, Jaipur;
4. User Agency; and
5. Monitoring Cell, FC Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi Delhi for uploading on PARIVESH portal.